

# IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL PRODUCE IOWA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

# IOWA ARTS COUNCIL



Earlier this month, the Iowa Arts Council [launched a new digital stage](#) to support, amplify and celebrate Iowa musicians, filmmakers and other performers. Its first lineup features a mix of music from **EleanorGrace** of Des Moines and **Lily DeTaeye** of Iowa City, a short film from **Fred Ebong** of Cedar Rapids, and poetry from the Meskwaki artist **Dawson Davenport** and poets from the **Indigenous Peoples Art Gallery & Café**, also in Iowa City.

So now it's *your* turn! If you'd like to star on the #IowaKeepsCreating Digital Stage, please let us know. We're currently accepting proposals for the stage's second round of performances, which will focus on a theme of "Arts and Healing."

## PITCH A PROPOSAL

Of course, Iowa artists are performing on plenty of other virtual platforms, too. Here are just a few highlights to check out:



### ["Multiverses"](#)

This 5-minute mix of dance, music and text was originally performed by **Hurley & Dancers** and the **Heartland Marimba Ensemble** during the summer 2020 online **Iowa Dance Festival**. It counters the sadness triggered by loss with hope for creative work in the future.



### [“nature of the dream”](#)

This exploration of Black identity in Iowa debuts at 7 p.m. today at the **Des Moines Playhouse** and can be viewed multiple times through March 7. It’s directed by **Miriam Randolph** and produced by **Two Steps to the Left** with help from the Playhouse, and it’s based on personal stories and testimonies from the cast and crew.



### [“Ghost Trail”](#)

This 11-minute musical performance from the Des Moines-based indie rock duo **Arias**, with **Erik Tarr** and **Keenan Crow**, offers a layered, atmospheric mix of instruments and arrangements influenced by dream pop, psychedelic rock, shoegaze and other musical styles.

If you’re producing or streaming an upcoming virtual event, let us know and we’ll help spread the word.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR VIRTUAL EVENT

## Federal Funding Opportunities

The Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs and Iowa Arts Council continue to stay up-to-date on developments about current federal funding opportunities. We are also closely monitoring any additional opportunities that may come from the next relief aid package that Congress is currently considering.

[Americans for the Arts](#) has also been tracking and translating the federal funding landscape, so we encourage you to visit their website to view the [2021 COVID-19 Arts Resources Table](#). You can also find more information on the current status of and eligibility requirements for Shuttered Venues Operators Grants and important upcoming deadlines related to the Paycheck Protection Program on the U.S. Small Business Administration [website](#). Additionally, individuals looking for information on new and expanded federal unemployment benefits can visit [iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov](#).

## New Grants, New Opportunities



The Iowa Arts Council has opened its annual round of grants to strengthen the vitality and sustainability of arts and culture across Iowa. For the upcoming fiscal year, which starts July 1, several grant programs have been modified to provide arts and cultural organizations greater flexibility, as the sector navigates a challenging year.

**Apply by May 3.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Iowa Artist Fellowships: Apply by March 15



Iowa artists, dancers, designers, filmmakers, musicians, writers and other creative professionals are encouraged to **apply by March 15** for the new round of Iowa Artist Fellowships. The program comes with a \$10,000 grant and professional development training to support Iowans who demonstrate exceptional creativity, artistic innovation and public impact through their work.

A new webinar offers [step-by-step instructions](#) to help applicants present their work clearly and with confidence. Applicants may also [contact the Iowa Arts Council staff](#), who are eager to help.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## Volunteer on a Grant Panel

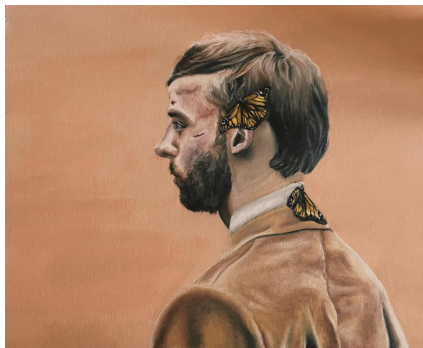
Would you like to serve on a grant-review panel? The Iowa Arts Council is seeking panelists with artistically and culturally diverse viewpoints to serve on our fiscal year [2022 grants panels](#), which will be held virtually.

Volunteering on a panel is a great way to support the arts in Iowa, learn about new ideas and projects, spark interesting conversations, participate in the decision-making process and, as a bonus, strengthen your own skills as a grant writer.

Panelists will receive training and may be eligible for a stipend.

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](#)

## Iowa Scholarship for the Arts



"I'll Be Good" by Aidan Drake.

**Spread the word:** Iowa high school seniors who excel in the arts and plan to pursue an arts-related major at an Iowa college or university may now apply for the Iowa Scholarship for the Arts online. **Apply by April 1.**

[LEARN MORE & APPLY](#)

## Grantee Spotlight: The Living Proof Exhibit

For more than a decade, a Quad Cities nonprofit called the **Living Proof Exhibit** has helped cancer patients, survivors and caregivers tap into the healing power of the arts through workshops and exhibits. More recently, the group has jumped on the Zoom boom and enlisted local artists to create free virtual experiences for cancer patients as well as the general public.



[READ THE BLOG](#)

## When Will Audiences Return in Person?

Obviously, many people are wondering when audiences will feel safe enough to fully return to live events at arts and cultural venues. Nobody has a perfectly clear crystal ball, but some recent national



research may help inform your predictions. Here are three of the latest reports:

- [The Patrons' Perspective: An Overview of Buying Behavior and a Timeline to Return to Theaters](#)
- [The Art of Reopening: A Guide to Current Practices Among Arts Organizations During COVID-19](#)
- [Market Potential by Quarter in 2021: Projected Attendance to US Cultural Entities](#)



## The Business of Art

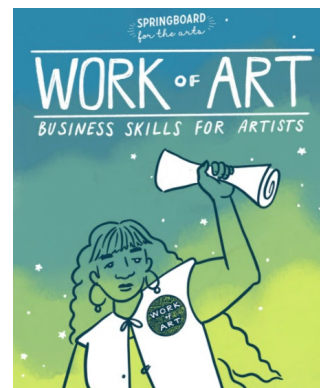


The **Octagon Center for the Arts** and the **Ames Community Arts Council** are partnering to present the third annual Business of Art Conference on **March 6**. The virtual event will include 14 professional development sessions as well as networking opportunities for all kinds of artists and creative people – formally trained or self-taught, full-time or part-time, at all stages of their careers.

This year's keynote speaker is **Jenie Gao**, an artist, creative director and entrepreneur in Madison, Wisconsin, whose work focuses on creating cultural landmarks and records that help define who we are. She is a writer and an advocate for equity in the arts.

LEARN MORE

Artists who want to strengthen their business skills may also appreciate “**Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists**,” a free digital toolkit developed by **Springboard for the Arts**. The toolkit is based on a series of professional development and entrepreneurship workshops that have been taught at arts organizations, libraries and colleges in more than 80 communities in the Upper Midwest, and replicated across the country by artists, arts organizations, and colleges and universities.



ORDER THE TOOLKIT

# Coming Up

## Grants

Open: [Coronavirus Relief Fund Registered Apprenticeship Expansion Grant Opportunities](#)

Feb. 26: [Webinar about Greenlight Grants](#)

Feb. 26: [The Gottlieb Foundation Individual Support Grant](#)

March 8: [Creative Capital Awards](#)

March 15: [Iowa Artist Fellowships](#)

March 16: [LIFT: Early Career Support for Native Artists](#)

March 16: [SHIFT: Transformative Change and Indigenous Arts](#)

March 18: [Innovate Grant Winter Cycle](#)

March 30: [Build With Bags Grant](#)

March 31: [USArtists International Grant Program](#)

April 9: [BIPOC Deaf Arts Grant](#)

April 22: [NEA Challenge America](#)

April 23: [Harpo Foundation New Work Project Grants](#)

May 3: [Annuity Freedom Artist Grant](#)

May 3: [Annuity Freedom Black Business Grants & Minority Resources](#)

May 3: [Annuity Freedom Small Business Grant for Women](#)

May 3: [Arts Midwest GIG Fund](#)

May 3: [Cultural Leadership Partners](#)

May 3: [Greenlight Grants](#)

May 3: [Iowa Arts & Culture Resilience Grants \(for artists\)](#)

May 3: [Iowa Arts & Culture Resilience Grants \(for nonprofits\)](#)

Aug. 1: [ASF Scandinavian Folk Arts Fellowships and Grants](#)

## Professional Development

March 1: [Live United Awards](#)

March 1: [Change Lab Research Fellowship: Racial Justice in Public Art](#)

March 6: [Business of Art Conference](#)

March 12: [Citizens' Institute on Rural Design](#)

## Student Opportunities

June 1: [ICF Student Composers Competition](#)

## Calls for Artists

Feb. 28: [Arte Natura](#)

Feb. 28: [Artist Lab: Art Meets History](#)

Feb. 28: [Marshalltown Mural](#)

March 1: [Sac City Conservation Center Mural](#)

March 5: [FACE of Mahaska County Mural](#)

March 12: [ArtHaus Annual Emerging Artist Exhibition](#)

March 12: [CUE Art Foundation](#)

March 19: [Outdoor Ring Out for Art Sculpture Exhibit](#)

March 20: [Survey Exhibition of Contemporary Art by Post-9/11 U.S. Military Veteran Artists](#)

March 21: [ArtsThrive: Art Exhibition and Benefit](#)

March 29: [Dubuque Museum of Art Biennial](#)

March 31: [Stevens Point Sculpture Park](#)

March 31: [Tiny Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, or Art](#)

April 6: [Clear Lake Arts Center Sculpture Exhibition](#)

April 28: [Merge: Nation's Best Emerging Artists With Disabilities](#)

May 10: [National Museum of Racing and Hall of Fame](#)

Oct. 31: [Sunspot Literary Journal](#)

March 25: [Composing for Film](#)

June 23: [Teaching Artists Guild Webinars](#)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

